

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 4851, Continuing Extension Act, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2331–S2397

Measures Introduced: Thirteen bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3208–3220, and S. Res. 483–487. **Page S2377**

Measures Reported:

S. 3031, to authorize Drug Free Communities enhancement grants to address major emerging drug issues or local drug crises, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 3217, A original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices. **Pages S2376–77**

Measures Passed:

Continuing Extension Act: By 59 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 117), Senate passed H.R. 4851, to provide a temporary extension of certain programs, as amended, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S2341–57, S2363–67

Adopted:

By 85 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. 115), McCain Modified Amendment No. 3724 (to Amendment No. 3721), expressing the sense of the Senate that the Value Added Tax is a massive tax increase that will cripple families on fixed income and only further push back America’s economic recovery and the Senate opposes a Value Added Tax.

Pages S2351–57, S2364

Baucus Modified Amendment No. 3721, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S2341–57, S2363–67**

Rejected:

Coburn Amendment No. 3726 (to Amendment No. 3721), to pay for the full cost of extending additional unemployment insurance and other Federal

programs. (By 50 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 113), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S2341, S2345–46**

Coburn Amendment No. 3727 (to Amendment No. 3721), to pay for the full cost of extending additional unemployment insurance and other Federal programs. (By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 114), Senate tabled the amendment.) **Pages S2341–45, S2346**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 60 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 116), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on Baucus Modified Amendment No. 3721 (listed above). **Page S2365**

Subsequently, the motion to invoke cloture on the bill was withdrawn. **Page S2365**

National Public Works Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 484, designating the week of May 16 through May 22, 2010, as “National Public Works Week”. **Pages S2393–95**

Financial Literacy Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 485, designating April 2010 as “Financial Literacy Month”. **Pages S2393–95**

2010 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 486, supporting the mission and goals of the 2010 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week to increase public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors of crime in the United States, no matter the country of origin or creed of the victim, and to commemorate the National Crime Victims’ Rights Week theme referred to as “Crime Victims’ Rights: Fairness. Dignity. Respect.”. **Pages S2393–95**

Honoring the Coal Miners Who Perished in West Virginia: Senate agreed to S. Res. 487, honoring the coal miners who perished in the Upper Big Branch Mine-South in Raleigh County, West Virginia, extending the condolences of the United

States Senate to the families of the fallen coal miners, and recognizing the valiant efforts of the emergency response workers. **Pages S2393–95**

Impeachment of Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr.: The Chair submitted to the Senate for printing in the Senate Journal and in the *Congressional Record* the replication of the House of Representatives to the Answer of Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr., to the articles of impeachment against Judge Porteous, pursuant to S. Res. 457, 111th Congress, Second Session, which replication was received by the Secretary of the Senate on April 15, 2010. **Pages S2357–60**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Majority Leader, be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions April 15, 2010 or April 16, 2010. **Page S2395**

Brainard Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Lael Brainard, of the District of Columbia, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury. **Page S2367**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, April 15, 2010, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 19, 2010. **Page S2367**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination at approximately 3:00 p.m., on Monday, April 19, 2010. **Page S2395**

Demeo Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Marisa J. Demeo, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. **Page S2367**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Lael Brainard, of the District of Columbia, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury. **Page S2367**

Schroeder Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Christopher H. Schroeder, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Attorney General. **Page S2367**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Marisa J. Demeo, of the Dis-

trict of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. **Page S2367**

Vanaskie Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Thomas I. Vanaskie, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit. **Page S2367**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Christopher H. Schroeder, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Attorney General. **Page S2367**

Chin Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Denny Chin, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit. **Page S2367**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Thomas I. Vanaskie, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit. **Page S2367**

Messages from the House: **Page S2375**

Measures Referred: **Page S2375**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S2375**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2375–76**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2377**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2377–78**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2378–91**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2372–75**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2391–92**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2392**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—117) **Pages S2345–46, S2364–65**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:26 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, April 19, 2010. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2395.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies concluded open and closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, after receiving testimony from Robert S. Mueller, III, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

APPROPRIATIONS: GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE, GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, AND THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the Government Accountability Office (GAO), the Government Printing Office (GPO), and the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), after receiving testimony from Gene L. Dodaro, Acting Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office; Robert C. Tapella, Public Printer, Government Printing Office; and Douglas Elmendorf, Director, Congressional Budget Office.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, after receiving testimony from Eric K. Shineski, Secretary, Robert A. Petzel, Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration, Michael Walcoff, Acting Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, Steve L. Muro, Acting Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, National Cemetery Administration, W. Todd Grams, Acting Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer, and Roger W. Baker, Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology, Office of Information and Technology, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Vice Admiral James A. Winnefeld, Jr., United States Navy, to be admiral and Commander, United States Northern Command, and to be Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command, and Lieutenant General Keith B. Alexander, United States Army, to be

general and Director, National Security Agency, to be Chief, Central Security Service, and to be Commander, United States Cyber Command, who was introduced by Senator Mikulski, both of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland concluded a hearing to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on opportunities and challenges for Army Ground Force modernization efforts, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Robert P. Lennox, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army, G-8, Lieutenant General William N. Phillips, Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology, and Director, Acquisition Career Management, and David W. Duma, Principal Deputy Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, Office of the Secretary, all of the Department of Defense; and Michael J. Sullivan, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine legislative proposals in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's fiscal year 2011 budget request, after receiving testimony from Shaun Donovan, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

PACIFIC SALMON STRONGHOLD CONSERVATION ACT OF 2009

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded a hearing to examine S. 817, to establish a Salmon Stronghold Partnership program to conserve wild Pacific salmon, after receiving testimony from Gordon H. Reeves, Research Fish Biologist and Team Leader, Pacific Northwest Research Station, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Sara LaBorde, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Olympia; Guido Rahr, Wild Salmon Center, Portland, Oregon; and Joe Childers, United Fisherman of Alaska (UFA), Juneau.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine filing season update, focusing on current IRS issues, after receiving testimony from Steven T.